

Minutes of... Children's Network Policy Council

Details

Date: March 25, 2009

Time: noon

Place: County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 5th Floor Citrus Room, San Bernardino.

Attendees

- Charles Adams, Community Action Partnership
 - Rick Arden, Probation – Juvenile
 - DeAnna Avey-Motikeit, Children and Family Services
 - Karen Bell, District Attorney – Juvenile
 - Jennifer Cannady, Public Defender – Juvenile
 - Mary Lynn Clark, Inland Regional Center
 - Steven Couchot, TAD Administration
 - Amy Cousineau, Children's Network
 - Meaghan Ellis, Department of Public Health
 - Cindy Faulkner, First 5 San Bernardino
 - Ron Griffin, Preschool Services Department
 - Linda Haugan, Human Services Administration
 - Margaret Hill, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools
 - Mike Markel, County Counsel
 - Dr. Maxwell Ohikhuare, Department of Public Health
 - Mike Schertell, Department of Behavioral Health
 - Sue Taylor, Children's Network
 - Kathy Turnbull, Children's Network
 - Beatriz Valdez, CAO – Grants Coordinator
 - Trinity Wallace-Ellis, C.A.S.A.
 - Greg Zerovnik, San Bernardino County Library Administration
 - Tammy Williams, Children's Network
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Welcome and Introductions

Linda Haugan convened the meeting. Self introductions were made. **A motion was made to approve the agenda as submitted. No action items on the agenda for March, 2009. A motion was made by Ron Griffin and seconded by Rick Arden to accept the minutes as submitted.**

Topics Discussed

The table below identifies the topics discussed in the meeting and the person who led each discussion.

Topic	Discussion Leader
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Welcome and Introductions	Haugan
Approval of Agenda	Haugan
Approval of February 2009 minutes	Haugan
Children's Network Report	Cousineau
Children's Fund Report	Cousineau
Update on S.E.M.	Cousineau/Arden
Safe Schools Grant Application	Arden
Other Announcements	All
Public Comment	None

Actions

Topic	Who is Responsible	Deadline
Showing of the DVD on Juvenile Prostitution will be following the regularly scheduled Policy Council meeting on April 29 th .	Tammy Williams	For next Policy Council meeting on April 29 th .

**Key points:
Children's
Network
Report**

The following highlights were given:

- Amy Cousineau mentioned that there were several Policy Council members today at the Children's Network 11th Annual Shine the Light breakfast at the National Orange Show. She thanked everyone for their support.
 - The Policy Council Meeting for April has to be changed due to the Children's Fund Bonnes Meres Birthday Luncheon on April 22nd. **You will be getting further information. There are still three seats available at the Children's Network table, so please contact Amy or Tammy at (909) 383-9657.**
 - Children's Network Policy Council is a sponsor for the Time for Change event on April 30th at 11:30 a.m. at the National Orange Show, Valencia Room. **Children's Network has four seats available, so please contact Amy or Tammy at (909) 383-9657.**
 - Sue Taylor stated that at the Board of Supervisors Meeting yesterday, March 24 the Child Abuse Prevention Resolution was read. All of the twenty-four cities in San Bernardino County have been invited to join San Bernardino County in recognizing that April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. The CAP (Child Abuse Prevention) team has been going out to the City Council meetings to share the information about the child abuse prevention efforts. She reminded all those present that Children's Network has lots of materials on child abuse prevention and injury.
 - Sue mentioned that the Call for Proposals for Children's Network Annual Conference on September 23rd and 24th at the Ontario Convention Center is out. There will be a Foster Youth track and Trinity Wallace-Ellis will be doing a workshop.
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**Key points:
Children's
Fund Report**

Since Rebecca Stafford was unable to attend the meeting today, Amy gave the following information:

- April 18 – 19, 2009 is the Children's Fund Claremont/West End Home Tour.
 - April 22nd starting at 11 a.m. is the Bonnes Meres Birthday Luncheon at the Redlands Country Club. Children's Network has a table at this event.
 - June 15th is the AGA Golf Classic at the Red Hill Country Club in Rancho Cucamonga.
 - For further details, please call Children's Fund main line at (909) 387-4949.
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**Key points:
Update on
S.E.M.**

The following highlights were given:

Rick Arden stated on Friday, March 20th Karen Bell organized the first S.E.M. (Sexually Exploited Minors) or C.A.S.E. (Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation) meeting with the community.

- Ms. Pamela Harris from San Francisco came and spoke about what San Francisco County is doing regarding S.E.M.
- The interest for this area of child abuse prevention was first brought by the attention of law enforcement and D.A.'s (District Attorney Office) specifically the Ontario area on Holt Boulevard.
- Four subgroups were formed to address specific areas. The Focus Teams will be sharing ideas and strategizing with the other C.A.S.E. groups.
- The plan is to get a pilot in place with collaboration from the community starting with the West End of this county.
- The main focus is on how to identify and find these young men and women who have become involved in prostitution.
- Some other critical areas to be covered are; identification, evaluate the problem, and law enforcement involvement.
- DeAnna Avey-Motikeit asked how many youth are involved with the Focus groups. Response: No youth are on the groups as of this point.
- It will be very important to gather stats on these particular cases.
- **Trinity Wallace-Ellis will be sharing information in her workshop at the Foster Care Youth Summit on May 9th to empower youth and give them resources.**
- **Jennifer Cannady asked that the Public Defender – Juvenile section be invited to share information as well at the Foster Care Youth Summit on May 9th.**
- Rick spoke about the sixteen girls and boys currently on Probation for prostitution.
- The Wraparound Services have been very helpful with these teens.
- Amy has viewed the DVD purchased by the Probation Department on Juvenile Prostitution that is two hours long. She offered to have a showing of this DVD after the April or May Policy Council meetings. **These details to be shared with Policy Council members at a later date.**
- One long-term goal is to form a public/private partnership to obtain a House that has at least six beds and can be used by both San Bernardino and Riverside counties for sexually exploited minors. Rick Arden would like this facility to have services for boys. Possibly this facility could take in ...

children from other counties so that the beds are full.

- More details will follow on the C.A.S.E. groups.
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**Key points:
Safe Schools
Grant
Application**

The following highlights were given:

- In the agenda packets was a SBSun newspaper article on, “San Bernardino County applies for youth intervention grant”.
 - Rick Arden mentioned that through partnering with San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, DBH (Department of Behavioral Health), Sheriff’s Department, Public Defender, and District Attorney they applied for a “9 million dollar grant from the U.S. Education, Health and Human Services, and Justice Departments.”
 - There are Probation Officers that go into schools to assist with many issues.
 - About three million dollars of the grant money will fund; Assistant District Attorney, a Sheriff’s Deputy, a Public Defender, and two Probation Officers.
 - The Probation Officers assist with school safety issues such as truancy, etc.
 - This grant will target the following school districts; Hesperia Unified, Colton Joint Unified, Chaffee Unified, Rialto Unified, and San Bernardino Unified.
 - If the grant application is successful, some staff will be going to training on the nationwide curriculum.
 - Rick Arden and Margaret Hill are hopeful the grant is successful for the three million dollars and they should know by June 30th.
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**Key points:
Other
Announcement**

The following highlights were given:

- DeAnna Avey-Motikeit mentioned a Save the Date flyer will be going out soon on the Foster Care Summit on May 9th, from noon to five p.m. at CSUSB. At five p.m. to 7 p.m. there will be a talent show and light dinner.
- San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools will be covering much of; the transportation buses for foster youth, facility costs and food costs. Other support for the event will come from; CYC (California Youth Connection), DBH (Department of Behavioral Health), Children's Fund, Children's Network. and Children and Family Services.
- Greg Zerovnik mentioned that at the First Birthday party of the Fontana Branch Library over a million patrons have been served.
- Cindy Faulkner mentioned that First 5 San Bernardino staff met with DBH staff last week to talk about the combined RFP (Request for Proposals) for the SART (Screening Assessment Referral Treatment) Centers. There will not be expansion of the current SART Centers to cover the Morongo Basin area at this time.
- First 5 San Bernardino will extend the current SART contracts for one year.
- There may be a change in the First 5 San Bernardino funding depending on how the election goes on May 19th.
- Margaret Hill welcomed Policy Council members to the Gangs and Drugs Task Force that meets monthly the first Wednesday of the Month at 7:30 a.m. at the Sheriff's Department large conference room upstairs. The speaker in May will be Deputy District Attorney, Tamara Ross.
- Rick Arden mentioned that Judge Slough has taken the leadership for the Drug Court in the Central Valley region.
- Jennifer Cannady, Supervising Deputy Public Defender stated that through collaborative efforts, the Public Defender is a partner with the schools and Probation Department working on school issues.
- There was discussion about which vendor Public Defender, Probation, and Children and Family Services uses for drug testing. DeAnna Avey-Motikeit mentioned that San Bernardino County Purchasing Department is working on setting up a vendor now.
- Trinity Wallace-Ellis mentioned they are having a walk for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) on April 2nd at 5 p.m. The focus is on Child Abuse Prevention month of April. In and Out Burger will be serving burgers for the first 300 present.
- Trinity mentioned another upcoming event is on April 28th and 29th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor, San Bernardino. It is the Crafts Boutique. All proceeds from the event will be for purchase of gifts for children. There are still tables available for vendors.
- April 6th is Public Health week. The Needs Assessment tool will be rolled out along with the website for Department of Public Health.

Next Meeting

*Next regularly scheduled meeting will be April 29th at noon at the County Government Center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 5th Floor Citrus Room. **Policy Council meets the 5th Wednesday of the month only for April due to another event on April 22nd.***